



East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21)

Project Status

Approved Date: 2005 **Project Area:** 362 acres
Approved Funds: \$23.0 M **Total Est. Cost:** \$23.0 M
Net Benefit After 20 Years: 169 acres
Status: Engineering and Design
Project Type: Marsh Creation

Location

The project is located in the Teche/Vermilion Basin at the east end of Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge southeast of Lake Sand in Iberia Parish, Louisiana.

Problems

Substantial areas of interior emergent marsh on Marsh Island have been converted to open water, primarily because of Hurricane Lili (2002). Areas targeted under this project are those with the greatest historical land loss and within close proximity to East Cote Blanche Bay.

Restoration Strategy

This project is designed to re-create brackish marsh habitat in the open water areas of the interior marsh primarily caused by hurricane damage. Based on 2007 aerial photography analysis, approximately 197 acres of marsh will be nourished and 165 acres of open water will be restored to interior emergent marsh habitat. The loss rates for the interior ponded areas are estimated to be reduced by 50 percent. This project provides a synergistic effect with CWPPRA's Marsh Island Hydrologic Restoration (TV-14), a project constructed in December 2001.



Aerial view of the east end of Marsh Island where material dredged from East Cote Blanche Bay will be deposited to fill in open ponds and nourish marsh.

Progress to Date

The Louisiana Coastal Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force approved funding for engineering and design at their February 2005 meeting. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Conservation Service, working through the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, are currently coordinating engineering and design of the project.

This project is on Priority Project List 14.

For more project information, please contact:



Federal Sponsors:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 Dallas, Tex.
 (214) 665-7255



Natural Resources Conservation Service
 Alexandria, La.
 (318) 473-7756



Local Sponsor:

Louisiana Department of Natural Resources
 Baton Rouge, La.
 (225) 342-7308

West Cote Blanche Bay

Marsh Island Wildlife Refuge

East Cote Blanche Bay

East Marsh Island Marsh Creation (TV-21)



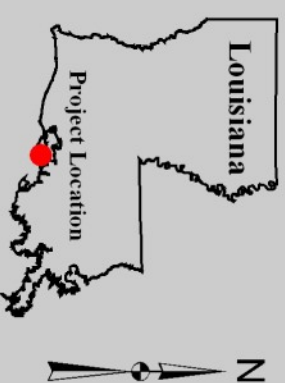
Marsh Creation/Nourishment *



Project Boundary

*denotes proposed features

USGS
science for a changing world



0.1 0 0.1 0.2

Kilometers

0.1 0 0.1 0.2

Miles

Map Produced by:

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey
National Wetlands Research Center
Coastal Restoration Field Station
Baton Rouge, La.

Background Imagery:

2005 Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle

Map Date: June 20, 2008

Map ID: USGS-NWRC 2008-11-0289

Data accurate as of: June 11, 2008